

Minister Meetings Set to Begin

As part of its lobbying activities, the AMM schedules individual Minister meetings once each year to discuss specific issues under each of the Minister's portfolios.

These meetings allow the AMM to bring forward important municipal issues pertaining to each Provincial Department. As we did last year, the AMM will also raise some key issues with each Minister. This year, those issues will be education, taxation on property, and planning & water concerns.

We have scheduled a number of meetings for this month, including:

January 18

The Honourable **Jim Rondeau**, *Minister of Industry, Economic Development and Mines*

The Honourable **Eric Robinson**, *Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism*

January 25

The Honourable **Greg Selinger**, *Minister of Finance*

The Honourable **Steve Ashton**, *Minister of Water Stewardship*

January 26

The Honourable **Ron Lemieux**, *Minister of Transportation and Government Services*

The Honourable **Stan Struthers**, *Minister of Conservation*

Highlights from each meeting will be featured in upcoming issues of the AMM News Bulletin. The position papers will be available on the AMM website, after each meeting, at

www.amm.mb.ca/provministermeetings.htm ■

AMM Board of Directors Plans for Year Ahead

On January 5 and 6, 2005, the AMM Board of Directors held a strategic planning session to outline the priorities for the AMM over the coming year.

This annual session allows the Board to look at ways and means of improving and enhancing the way the AMM as an organization operates. The resulting strategic plan is our blueprint for the year.

This year's strategic plan is still being compiled, and details will be forthcoming throughout the year. Intensifying lobbying on key issues, especially education funding, planning/water issues and a New Deal for municipal governments, will all be key priorities for the AMM this year. We also plan to continue increasing the profile of the AMM throughout all levels of government.

Overall, the AMM will strive to ensure that we continue to evolve to meet the needs of municipalities over the next year and beyond. ■

The AMM is currently working on several resolutions related to health care in Manitoba, including several on Regional Health Authorities (RHA). Many communities are having problems with the way that RHA boards function and this can only change if the Provincial Government is aware of your concerns. The AMM encourages members to submit any concerns with RHA boards directly to the Minister of Health.

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR
FROM THE**



**Contact the Association of
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.AMM.MB.CA

Coming Events

Municipal Officials Seminar and Trade Show

The AMM's annual Municipal Officials Seminar and Trade Show will be held at Brandon's Keystone Centre on February 28 and March 1, 2005.

To view a preliminary agenda, visit:

www.amm.mb.ca/events

Also, watch for the upcoming issue of *The Municipal Leader* magazine in mid-February. It contains a list of exhibitors and where their booths will be located at the Keystone Centre.

Mayors, Reeves and CAO Meetings

Dates have been set for the March Mayors, Reeves and CAO meetings. These dates are posted on the AMM website at

www.amm.mb.ca/events

Notices

Repeal of Section 4 of the Public Trustee Act

Effective January 1, 2005, Section 4 of The Public Trustee Act has been repealed. The repeal of this section will have an impact upon tax sale proceedings involving municipalities. The previous practice usually involved the Land Titles Office issuing Orders of Substitutional Service directing service to be made upon the Public Trustee pursuant to Section 4 of The Public Trustee Act where there was no personal representative acting for an estate. A statutory fee was required to be paid. Upon service on the Public Trustee, the Public Trustee's role was to review the matter and communicate a recommendation to those persons who appeared to be beneficiaries or heirs-at-law of the estate in question.

As Section 4 of The Public Trustee Act has been repealed, it is not anticipated that the Public Trustee will have a role to play in tax sale proceedings involving estates where there is no personal representative in

most circumstances. Directions concerning substitutional service involving unrepresented estates will be given by the Land Titles Office.

Community Places Grant Applications Now Available

Grant applications are now available for the 2005 Community Places Program. The deadline for submitting applications to the program is February 21 and approvals will be announced in the spring. Eligible projects can receive up to 50 per cent of the first \$15,000 of total project costs and up to one-third of costs over that amount. The maximum grant is \$50,000.

To receive a grant application or for more information about the Community Places Program, call:

945-0502 or toll-free 1-800-894-3777

Email: mcpp@gov.mb.ca

application may be downloaded from:

www.gov.mb.ca/chc/grants

Historic Places Initiative

A new federal-provincial partnership is underway in Manitoba—the Historic Places Initiative (HPI). This initiative, being led in Manitoba by the Dept. of Culture, Heritage and Tourism, will foster greater appreciation of the diversity and value of heritage sites, buildings and special locations across Canada.

For more information about this initiative, visit:

www.historicplaces.ca

Aggregate Mining and Transportation Fees and Agreements Regulation

Effective March 1, 2005, the Manitoba Regulation 48/97, the Aggregate Mining and Transportation Fees and Agreements Regulation will be amended to increase the fees that municipalities can charge companies for the transportation of aggregate material on municipal roads.

Maximum aggregate hauling fees that municipalities may establish by by-law

will increase by 16%, phased in over four years starting with a 4% increase in 2005. Municipalities may use these additional revenues to repair roads impacted by the transportation of aggregate material.

To obtain a copy of the amended regulation, visit:

www.gov.mb.ca/laws

Support for Tsunami Disaster

The Town of The Pas, RM of Kelsey and Opaskwayak Cree Nation are making a donation to the Canadian Red Cross in support of the South East Asia Tsunami disaster. They encourage all Manitoba municipalities and First Nations Communities to consider contributing funds to the relief effort either through the Canadian Red Cross or an organization of your choice. Donations to the Canadian Red Cross can be mailed to:

Canadian Red Cross
Manitoba/Nunavut Office
P.O. Box 2441 STN Main
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4A7

Donations can be made by phone at 1-800-418-1111, or online at:

www.strategicprofitsinc.com/hosted/redcross/index.php

Job Postings

Chief Administrative Officer Fort Nelson, British Columbia

We are looking for a progressive leader with a solid foundation of knowledge and experience in municipal government administration. The position carries an attractive compensation package, with allowances and relocation.

Please direct your application, preferably by email, to:

Joanna Imoo or Brian Morrison
Western Management Consultants
Email: search@wmc.bc.ca

A complete posting may be viewed on the AMM website at:

www.amm.mb.ca/jobpostings